

The Times-Dispatch

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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, 1903.

THE SEARCH FOR TRUTH.

The 5th annual Conference for Education in the South will begin its session in Richmond this afternoon, and it promises to be the most interesting and most important of all the Conferences that have been held because the movement has grown enormously within the past twelve months, and because the Conference has now become an established institution. It has passed through the experimental stage and is now founded upon a substantial basis. It has the cordial support of thousands of true Southern men and women, who have the cause of popular education at heart, and who see the good work that is being done and that is to be done.

In yesterday's paper we showed by enumerating the various speakers, that it is to be in fact, as well as in name, a Southern affair, and while addresses will be made by distinguished educators from the North, the Conference will be dominated by Southern sentiment, and all the deliberations will be in the interest of Southern education with due respect to Southern ideas and Southern traditions.

We welcome to Richmond these distinguished educators from all sections. We believe that the problems which confront us are to be solved, if solved at all, by the honest and sincere and intelligent cooperation of the honest and sincere and intelligent men of the North and the South. All such men are honestly seeking after the truth. They are not blinded by prejudice, they are not chasers after fads and fancies, they come together with their eyes open, with an earnest desire to ascertain what are the facts and then to confront them frankly and courageously.

It is noble pursuit, this search after truth, for it is the truth that makes us free. We are apt to shut our eyes against a painful truth; we are disposed, all of us, to hide away the skeletons in our closets and to keep them from prying eyes; we are apt to hide these skeletons from ourselves, if we can, and make believe that they are not. That is the tendency of human nature, but that is not philosophy. Philosophy turns the searchlight into the dark corners and finds the truth, and having found it confronts it and declares it. These Northern men who have been coming down South for the past several years come on a mission of search, and their investigations have been most successful and profitable. They are practical men, they have learned a great deal about the situation here, they understand the negro question as they could never have understood it without making personal investigations in that section where the great body of negroes live. They understand our circumstances, they know the burden which is upon us, and in a spirit of friendly sympathy they ask the poor privilege of helping us to carry it. It is a noble movement, it is a practical movement, and it has succeeded because it has deserved and commanded success.

A GOOD INVESTMENT.

The Jamestown Exposition bill has received favorable report from the majority of the Finance Committee of the Senate and will probably be taken up by the Senate as a body to-morrow for final action, various amendments having been vetoed down yesterday.

Under the provisions of the bill the State is to pay to the Exposition Company \$50,000 in March, 1904, and the balance in March, 1905, and it does seem that the State ought to be able to meet these payments without embarrassment. We are in full sympathy with those members of the General Assembly who are standing for economy in appropriations, but we believe that the appropriation for this enterprise will be a splendid investment for Virginia, and we do not think that the State can afford to withhold her moral and substantial support.

The celebration of this great historic event will advertise Virginia, her geographical location, her climate and her resources to all parts of the globe.

The cities of Norfolk, Portsmouth, Newport News, Hampton and adjoining sections stand ready to subscribe over \$100,000 to the exposition as soon as it bears the official stamp of approval of Virginia. We happen to know that one of the principal real estate agents and financiers, the present Mayor of East St. Louis and other well known citizens have said that from the moment it was decided to hold the Louisiana Purchase Exposition the taxable values and the demand for property increased at once, not only in that vicinity in Illinois, but in St. Louis and all over the State.

The late President McKinley, in his speech at Buffalo, just before the vile assassin did his work, said, speaking of expositions generally:

"Expositions are the time-keepers of progress. They record the world's advancement. They stimulate the energy, enterprise and intellect of the people and quicken the human genius. They go into the home. They broaden and brighten the daily life of the people. They open mighty storehouses of information to the student. Every exposition, great or small,

has helped to some onward step. Comparison of ideas is always educational, and as such instructs the brain and hand of man. Friendly rivalry follows, which is the spur to industrial improvement, the inspiration to useful invention and to high endeavor in all departments of human endeavor."

We believe that the Jamestown Exposition will be to Virginia what such expositions have been to the States in which they were held.

THE NEGRO PROBLEM.

The Rev. Percy Stickney Grant, rector of the Church of the Ascension, in New York city, preached a sermon on Sunday last on the negro question, in which he took the ground that it is the duty of the superior white race to educate the negro, to assume a paternal relation toward him, and to compel him to work even, if necessary, by State supervision. He took the position that nature permanently bars the union of the whites and blacks by weakening the fecundity of the children of such a union, and that the attempt to amalgamate the two races by marriage would result in racial suicide through barrenness. Assuming, therefore, that there must be absolute separation and no amalgamation, assuming that the white race is the superior race, and the negro race the inferior race, he then declared, as above stated, that the white race must rule the negro race and compel the negroes to take care of themselves by their own work.

"It is straining at a gnat," he concluded, "all this hysterical criticism of the efforts of the Europeans to get work out of the dark-skinned races when they are not held as slaves. A system of piece work and overseeing must be regarded as a just means for the time being to counteract human laziness. There should be a certain wardship over the inferior races to see that they obtain the reward of their labors."

This is about as near as any northern man could have come to the confession that slavery was good for the black man. Indeed, this preacher does advocate a form of slavery, and makes no secret of the fact.

In this connection we invite the especial attention of our northern visitors, those gentlemen who have come to Richmond in the interest of education, to the following clippings from the London Commercial-Intelligence:

It is very greatly to the credit of Mr. Chamberlain that, now he has been to South Africa and come into contact with the Boers and blacks, he confesses in the frankest terms that he was misled as to the Boer treatment of the natives. We may leave Mr. Chamberlain to speak for himself:

Mr. Chamberlain in the House of Commons, October 19, 1899.

When we have talked of grievances against the Boers, we have been led, probably to the relevances of unworthy of the natives. But how have we kept our promises to protect the natives? Sir, the treatment of the natives by the Boers has been disgraceful. It has been brutal. It has been unworthy of a civilized power.

Now, the war itself is evidence that this charge against the Boers was exaggerated. I freely make that admission. If it had not been exaggerated it is impossible to believe that the Boers could, as I know they did in fact, do thousands of cases, leave their wives and children and property in the care of the few natives they had had previously on their farms.

This is only another instance to show that, in regard to any statement regarding South Africa no matter by whom made, we are well advised to keep an open mind.

As the English people misjudged the Boers in their treatment of the blacks so the northern people misjudged the southern brethren. There was a disposition on the part of the English to confer the right of suffrage upon the black natives of South Africa, but after the war was over and after they had time and occasion to ascertain the facts they came to a different conclusion, and decided that the Boers knew better than the English how to deal with this practical question.

We believe now that every fair-minded man at the North is satisfied in his own mind that the fifteenth amendment was one of the greatest blunders ever committed in this country. We believe that they understand the situation in the South as they have not previously understood it, and now that the truth is known and confessed by the intelligent whites in all parts of the country, we are nearer than ever before to a solution of the so-called negro problem, which is the same wherever it exists, whether in South Africa or the Southern States of America.

SUMMER SCHOOLS FOR TEACHERS.

The Summer School of the South will open its second session at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, on June 23 and continue until August 1st.

This school is a feature of the Southern education campaign and is aided by Northern men associated with the Southern Education Board. Last session there were sixty-five professors and over two thousand students. It is believed that the attendance will be larger this year and the course is more attractive. The school last year was so successful that its friends have decided to make it permanent and this year will offer about one hundred and fifty courses in subjects ranging from the kindergarten to the university and covering the work of the elementary rural school as well as that of the city system. In order to carry out the programme, the services of eighty teachers, men and women, have been secured. In addition to the regular instructors there will be general lectures by Dr. Albert Shaw, of the Review of Reviews; Dean Russell, of Teachers' Col-

lege; Governor Aycock, of North Carolina; Governor Frazier, of Tennessee; and Dr. McVey, of North Carolina.

We have not the space to give the programme in full, but those interested may procure it by writing to the Bureau of Information, of the Southern Education Board, Knoxville, Tenn. There is no charge for instruction, the only cost to those who attend being a registration fee of \$5.

This school is to be considered in connection with the summer school at the University of Virginia, which was so eminently successful last year, and which will be continued this year. Such schools are to be conducted, as we understand it, in nearly all the Southern States, and a liberal part of the expense will be borne by Northern men who are taking an interest in Southern education. These schools, he it remembered, are for the training of teachers. The teachers who attend have the opportunity of brushing up on their studies, but more particularly of learning the best and most approved modern methods of instruction.

Here is evidence of great progress in education in the South. The better teachers we have the better schools we shall have, so that after all these training schools are for the benefit of the rising generation.

Mr. William K. Vanderbilt, who has been granted permission by a New York court to marry again, is fifty-four years of age and is worth \$100,000,000. For many years he has been living in Europe, in Paris chiefly.

In 1880 he married Miss Alva Smith, of Mobile, Ala., and they had three children, one of whom is now the wife of the Duke of Marlborough. In 1895 he was sued for divorce and a decree was granted, which forbade him to remarry during the lifetime of his wife. Not long afterwards, Mrs. Vanderbilt was married to Oliver H. P. Belmont, who was one of the yachting party when the estrangement of Mr. and Mrs. Vanderbilt occurred. Mr. Belmont was at the time a divorced man.

It is not positively known whom Mr. Vanderbilt will marry, but Mrs. Lewis M. Rutherford's name is mentioned in this connection.

The court thinks it a reasonable and proper thing, in the circumstances, that Mr. Vanderbilt should be allowed to marry again, but his appearance before the public in this connection has made a great flutter among the 400 and cannot but be very disagreeable to the Duchess of Marlborough. It is to be hoped, however, that it will be effectual for good in educating public sentiment against the divorce craze. Instead of being fashionable, divorce should be unfashionable; the last resort in a desperate case. And herein is another text for a Watersonian sermon.

Lieutenant-Governor Lee, of Missouri, is a fugitive from justice; that is to say, the State wants him as a witness in a legislative bribery investigation, and he has fled from her jurisdiction and is in hiding. He offers to come back and testify if he may confine his answers to questions within certain limits, but very properly the prosecution will not agree to any such terms.

United States Senator and former Governor Stone has been criticised in connection with the pure food laws in question, and has replied to his assailants in vehement terms. His protestations of innocence are couched in angry language.

We wish him a safe deliverance from all who would unjustly connect him with those scandals, but for his sake we would that he had been more calm and dignified in his speech intended to vindicate his course, and which was delivered on Monday before the Democratic Press Association.

The city of St. Louis and the State of Missouri have been unfortunate in the number of gross scandals that have stained their annals of late, but they have shown a most commendable determination in prosecuting the criminals. When they go in pursuit of a "hoodler" they make his trail very hot; there is no "let up" in their efforts, no condoning of crimes or excess of sympathy for the criminals.

Thousand-dollar bills are not in common use. Not many are in general circulation. It was the fact that a number of members of the Missouri Legislature went around town trying to get such bills changed that aroused suspicion and led to the present pure foods bill investigation.

If Jefferson could return from the spirit land, he would have his hands full harmonizing the parties that claim to be so much stuck on his doctrines.

The April showers are now over, and lucky is the man who still holds the bill of sale to his umbrella, and the umbrella, too.

A lantern was kicked over in Texas and twenty old wells went up in worthless smoke; but then they have a lot of oil wells down there and many to spare.

In the Northern Securities case the judges just went up the hill and then came down again.

It's a very cold day in Missouri when some State or city official does not skip out.

Our April showers got such a cold reception when they reached German soil they turned to snow.

The strawberry season has not been officially opened yet. Only a few straggling plates are on advance review.

The Kaiser is going to get a peep at some of our big warships after all. They will be at Kiel during yachting week.

And so it seems that the Anthracite Arbitration Commission's settlement don't exactly settle.

"Tain't so," says the venerable Mr. Vanderbilt, but the arrangements for the wedding go right along.

If the educators brought us the sunshine, then the educators be praised.

Trend of Thought
In Dixie Land

Memphis Commercial Appeal: When relief funds, charity funds and reserve funds are permitted to grow and accumulate so that expensive officers and an army of boards, trustees, treasurers and educational agents is necessary, the almshouse which relieves want for want's sake, who relieves the hungry because of the hunger, and who clothes the naked because of the nakedness, is overwhelmed in the tide and all but ceases to exercise his functions.

Atlanta Journal: It is unfortunate for the credulity of the American people that General Oles so often suppressed the Philippine insurgents with his typewriter, but smiling young man, with any amount of white teeth, I had no difficulty; but after that I became hopelessly involved. I was introduced to an elderly lady, whom I addressed for the rest of the evening as Lady Danvers, until Charles casually mentioned that his mother was dead, and that, until the deceased wife of Sir John, he was, he did not anticipate that his Aunt Mary would take upon herself the position of stepmother to her orphaned nephews. The severe elderly lady, then, who beamed so sweetly upon Ralph, and regarded Charles with such manifest coldness, was his aunt, Lady Mary Danvers, and he had known Sir John slightly in her youth, she said, as she graciously made room for me on her sofa, and she expressed a very proper degree of regret at his sudden death, considering that he had not been a personal friend in any way.

"We all have our faults," Colonel Middleton said, Lady Mary, with a gentle sigh, which disclosed a little gleam of the smile from the front of her dress. "Sir John, like the rest of us, was not exempt, though I have no doubt the softening influence of age would have done much, since I knew him, to smooth acerbities of character which were unfortunately strongly marked in his early life."

Sir John had evidently not known Sir John in his later years. As she continued to talk in this strain, I endeavored to make out which of the young ladies present was the one to whom Ralph was engaged. I was undecided as to which it was of the two who always seemed to me so very much alike, especially pretty girls; and these were both of them pretty. I do not mean that they resembled each other in the least, for one was dark and one was fair; but which was Miss Aurelia Grant, Ralph's fiancée, and which was Miss Evelyn Derrick, a cousin of the family, I could not make out until later.

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Roumania has come to enact some legislation which will deprive divorcees of some of their popularity and at the same time make membership in Roumanian "women's clubs" more conspicuous than ever. Minister of Finance Calescu has submitted a bill which will place a tax on divorcees graduated according to the amount of the husband's fortune.

Heligoland is not the only land which is gradually giving way before the continued onslaughts of the North Sea. A strip of thirty-six miles of English coast between Flimby and Spurn head loses on an average two yards and a quarter, or thirty acres a year. Over a mile has gone since the Norman conquest. Nothing has yet been devised to stop the inroads of the waves.

Personal and General.

Ellis Wheeler Wilcox says that of all the poems she has written she thinks that "High Noon" is her best, at least it is her favorite.

Mr. Ellsworth Huntington has lately been appointed research assistant by the Carnegie Institute and will go with Prof. Davis to join Prof. Pumpelly in Turkey.

The famous palace occupied by the late Geo. W. Childs, of the Philadelphia Ledger, which cost him over \$1,000,000, is to be transformed into an apartment-house.

Captain Charles H. Downs, who claims to have been the first white settler of Omaha, Neb., still resides there, at the age of eighty-four years. He went to Omaha in June, 1848, and was born in Connecticut, near the city of New Haven.

Prof. W. S. Jackson, of the University of Chicago, has been elected president of the National Society for the Scientific Study of Education.

Judge John M. Dickinson, appointed counsel for the United States before the Alaska boundary commission, which will sit in London next fall, graduated from the University of Nashville, the Columbia law school and studied international law in Leipzig and Paris.

North Carolina Sentiment.

The Winston-Salem Sentinel has been hearing something. It says:

"The returns indicate that the Hon. Grover Cleveland has been restored in the good graces of the Southern people, and there is no Presidential nomination significance about it either."

Politics must be getting much mixed in Durham. The Herald says:

"In the past this town has been getting along very well without politics in its elections, but if every little faction that thinks it can control a few votes has to put out a ticket, it would, best to have a straight fight between the two parties."

The Roxboro Courier seems to be down on judicial gowns. It says:

"It has been in the memory of almost the youngest child when even the gown would not lend dignity to the Supreme Court of this State, and we agree with numbers of others who have spoken through the columns of the press that it is not gowns which make a judge, but his head and brain. Away with such stuff, even if our legal fraternity has been used to it."

The Wilmington Messenger is led to make some pointed remarks on a touchstone question:

"That little ballot-box smashing affair at Newbern during the primary election on Monday carried one back to the elections before the reform movement. We thought the disfranchisement of the negro and the putting of elections entirely in the hands of the people was to do away with all such matters which were formerly considered necessary evils because of the peculiar condition of affairs."

Remarks About Richmond.

Norfolk County Democrat: Richmond is "about to lose the Legislature and the House will migrate to Norfolk, but she will retain her unique City Council."

Newport News Press: Several days have elapsed since the Boston press agent has been in the city, and the lacerated credulity of readers of the Richmond papers.

Virginia Citizen: Wouldn't it be a good idea to close the Richmond Ministerial Library, or else conduct it on the deaf and dumb plan?

The Danvers Jewels

BY MARY CHOLMONDELEYS.

(By Special Arrangement with Harper & Bro.)

I am not a person who easily becomes confused, but I must own I did get confused with the large party in the midst of which we were now ushered. I soon made out Sir George Danvers, a delicate but frangible-looking old gentleman, who received me with dignified cordiality, but returned Charles' greeting with a certain formality and coldness which I was pained to see, family affection being in my opinion the chief blessing of a truly happy home. Charles I already knew, and with the second Mrs. Danvers, a pudgy, smiling young man, with any amount of white teeth, I had no difficulty; but after that I became hopelessly involved.

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Ralph has been engaged, as did Charles, who had never seen his future sister-in-law before. Aurelia Grant was a charming little creature, with a curly head and a dimple, and a pink-and-white complexion, and a suspicion of an Irish accent when she became excited.

Charles said he admired her complexion most because it was so thoroughly well done, and the coloring was so true to nature.

It did not quite catch his meaning, but it certainly was a beautiful complexion; and then she was so bright and lively, and showed such pretty little teeth when she smiled! She was quite delightful, and I said to myself, how much I had loved in love with her, and Charles agreed with me.

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